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This Week in Wabash



Hello, Wabash,

Happy Monday. I hope your week is off to a great start. I think this muggy weather is getting to me. I find myself tired more often than I'm used to. Shopping this weekend in the damp heat had me taking a break every few aisles, especially in the outdoor garden area. Oh, well. So it goes.

For this week's newsletter I wanted to let you know about a story I've been working on that I'm planning to publish in Wednesday's paper.

A few weeks ago, a former resident of North Manchester, Benjamin Barefoot, called and emailed me to let me know about a special event he was planning.

It seems that exactly eight years before – on July 15, 2014 – he was involved in a semi-truck vs. bicycle accident on Indiana 114. The accident eventually led him to lose one of his legs. He now uses a prosthesis.

He told me his idea was to return to the scene of the accident and finish the same route he had taken that day exactly eight years before on his bicycle. This time, though, he would have several people assisting him. He wanted to know if I would be interested in taking photos and writing a story.

Of course, I was. But, I had to do some research first. I started by contacting the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL), which has an extensive record of archives of the Wabash Plain Dealer. They were eventually able to locate the original police report which ran in the newspaper eight years ago.

Wabash Plain Dealer

Thurs. July 17th, 2014 Page A4**POLICE BLOTTER**

Compiled by Eric Seaman

Accidents

The North Manchester Police Department investigated the following accidents:

At 8:38 p.m. Tuesday, in the 200 block of South 1st Street, a vehicle driven by Curtis Falk, 56, North Manchester, struck a parked vehicle owned by Billy Howard, 48, North Manchester.

The Wabash County Sheriff's Department investigated the following accidents:

At 5:48 a.m. Tuesday, on Ind. 114, a westbound tractor-trailer driven by Andrew Shanks, 27, Custer, Ohio, collided with a bicycle driven by Benjamin Barefoot, 32, North Manchester. Estimated

damages were between \$5,001 and \$10,000.

Arrests

The Wabash City Police Department preliminarily charged the following people:

Justin Huttinger, 29, 336 W. Market St., on Monday for a warrant for revocation of probation.

The Wabash County Sheriff's Department preliminarily charged the following people:

James Brown, 33, Peru, on Monday for possession of meth.

Andrew Wise, 29, Kokomo, on Monday for a warrant for failure to appear for possession of marijuana and a warrant for failure to appear for possession of hash oil.

Steven Morgan, 26, North Manchester, on

Monday for violation of electronic home detention.

Mia-Maree Burnham, 42, rural Wabash, on Monday for illegal possession of a syringe.

Carissa Copeland, 29, 960 Stitt St., on Monday possession of a hypodermic needle.

Gregory Starnes, 56, 165 E. Lafayette St., on Tuesday for violation of Wabash County Community Corrections.

Robert Smith, 29, Peru, on Tuesday for a petition to revoke probation, possession of a narcotic, illegal possession of a syringe and driving while suspended.

Citations

The North Manchester Police Department preliminarily cited the fol-

lowing people:

Saturday
Christopher Clark, 42, Liberty Mills, for driving while suspended.

Monday
Ann Marlin, 52, Fort Wayne, for speeding.

The Wabash City Police Department preliminarily cited the following people:

Tuesday
Carmela Zapata, 31, 1402 Adams St., for driving while suspended.

Fire

The North Manchester Fire Department responded to the following calls:

At 12:22 p.m. Saturday, in the 900 block of West 4th Street, for a medical assist.

At 2 a.m. Sunday, in the 1700 block of Westchester Drive, for a medical assist.

After that, I contacted the North Manchester Police Department (NMPD), which referred me to the Wabash County Sheriff's Department (WCSD). The WCSD was able to also provide me with the original accident report.

Then, on the morning of Friday, July 15, I met Benjamin and his team in front of Scout Hall at Warvel Park in North Manchester. I asked a few questions, took a few photos and then, they were off. I caught up with them a bit later as they were making their way down the road and took some action photos, too.

I'm excited about this story, and I think you'll enjoy reading it. So, check out Wednesday's newspaper for more.

Well, that's all I have for you today. Have a great rest of your week.

Best,
Rob

